

**MRS. WILSON GIVES A GOOD FRENCH DINNER**

With a Scale of Approximate Prices and Some of the Most Interesting Recipes—Arranging the Table

By MRS. M. A. WILSON  
 FORMER lessons we have considered ourselves with the simplified methods of the little bourgeoisie French housewife. I now desire to bring to this column some of the ideas and methods used in the chateaux and mansions of France. Dainty and exquisite service is the rule, and I feel that this can be done by giving the entire menu the look in away, madame descende to the kitchen and prepares a delicious and delicate meal, just in order to keep her hand in, as it were.  
 So first let us arrange a menu:  
 Fruit Cocktail Young Onions Radishes  
 Omelet Sardinie a l'Imperiale

**Braised New Potatoes** Peas  
**Cucumber Vernon** Coffee  
**Pineapple Coupe**

The fruit cocktail can be made from fruit juice by crushing the fruit and then adding just a little sugar. Heat very slowly to the boiling point and then turn in a piece of cheesecloth and squeeze hard to obtain all the juice. Chill and serve with cracked ice in cocktail glasses. To be successful the fruit juices must be rather tart than ever sweet.  
 Cover the olives with cracked ice, wash and trim the radishes, and with a sharp knife cut from the blossom end to the stem end, without de-flicking, into six equal parts; place in ice water to crisp. This causes the radish to open like a flower. Peel the scallops until they are about the

thickness of a lead pencil, and then cover with cracked ice.  
 To prepare the omelet with sardine garnish, separate six eggs and add yolk of one egg. Beat the whites just enough to have them beginning to froth, and then add the yolks and beat just enough to mix. Now place three tablespoons of bacon or ham drippings in a skillet, and when smoking hot turn in the prepared eggs. Loosen the omelet from the side of the pan at once and tip and tilt, allowing the egg mixture to run beneath, gently lifting the cooked edge with a spatula. Cook slowly until dry and then fold and roll. Turn on a hot dish and garnish with sardines, prepared as I will give you, and plenty of green parsley.

**Sardines a l'Imperiale**  
 Open a small can of sardines and drain them well, then roll lightly in flour. Now dip in a batter made as follows: Place in a small bowl  
 One-half cup of water,  
 Two-thirds cup of flour,

One-half teaspoon of salt.  
 Beat to mix and then dip sardines in this mixture and fry in hot fat until golden brown. Lift carefully to the paper napkin to drain. Use to garnish the omelet; owing to the delicate nature of the omelet the sardines must be prepared first and then be ready and waiting to be used.  
 For braised new potatoes: Boil the new potatoes in their jackets and remove the skin. Place two tablespoons of butter in a skillet and add the potatoes; toss occasionally until nicely browned.  
 For the cucumbers Vernon: Pare and slice and then cover with cracked ice for fifteen minutes. Then chop fine and add.  
 One grated onion,  
 One green pepper, minced fine,  
 Four tablespoons of mayonnaise,  
 One-quarter cup of sour cream whipped stiff.

Mix gently and then turn in crisp nest of lettuce.  
**Pineapple Coupe**  
 One pint of ice cream will make six portions. If you purchase cream about 5:30 P. M. and pack it in crushed ice and salt, and then place in a small kettle or saucepan and store in the ice chamber of the ice box, it will keep until needed for this meal.  
 Prepare a small pineapple by paring and then cutting in large dice. Place in a bowl and add two-thirds cup of powdered sugar. Now when ready to serve, place a tablespoonful of the prepared pineapple in a stem glass. Add a large spoonful of the ice cream and then four pieces of the prepared pineapple and garnish with the whipped cream. Pour over the whipped cream a tablespoon of pineapple syrup and then place a piece of pineapple on top. Caledonian cream may be used in place of the whipped cream if you wish it. Place in a small bowl  
 White of one egg,

One-third glass of apple or guinea jelly.  
 Beat with a Dover egg beater until the mixture becomes a white creamy mass and will hold its shape.  
 Now let us approximate a cost for this meal, so that we may have a basis to form an opinion as to comparison with our steak and chop meals.  
 1 pint of berries ..... \$0.08  
 1/2 small bottle olives ..... .10  
 1 bunch of radishes ..... .08  
 1 bunch of scallops ..... .08  
 7 eggs ..... .30  
 1 can of sardines ..... .15  
 1 quart of new potatoes ..... .15  
 1 cucumber ..... .05  
 1 onion ..... .01  
 1 pepper ..... .02  
 Mayonnaise ..... .03  
 1/2 cup of sour cream ..... .05  
 1 pineapple ..... .15  
 1 pint of ice cream ..... .30  
 Sugar ..... .05  
 Caledonian cream (jelly) ..... .05

My Dear Mrs. Wilson—Please answer me how to make a currant cake with water icing. I made one and all the currants fell to the bottom.  
 MRS. H. E.  
 Now try this method. Make the cake as usual and then grease and flour the pan and then turn in the cake dough and spread the surface a little higher on the sides than in the center. Now spread over the top of the cake dough the currants; press them gently until the dough just takes hold of them and then place in the oven and bake in the usual manner. The rising of the dough distributes the currants through the cake.  
 My Dear Mrs. Wilson—Kindly give

recipe on how to prepare O'Brien potatoes or potato a la O'Brien, and oblige,  
 MISS M. R. W.  
 Chop cold boiled potatoes fine and add to one and a half cups of prepared potatoes one-half cup of finely chopped onions, parboiled, and one green pepper, minced fine. Fry or saute as for country fried potatoes.

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